



THE CONNECTION

NEWSLETTER

LINKING HEALTH AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK WITH MINORITIES IN UTAH

September 2007 Issue # 15

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MULTICULTURAL HEALTH NETWORK CONFERENCE

On August 10th, the Multicultural Health Network of Utah (MHN) held their 4th Annual Health Disparities Conference at the Downtown Salt Lake City Radisson Hotel with a successful turnout of over 250 professionals and community members. The theme of the conference, “*Making the Connection: Bringing Health Disparities to the Health Reform Table*”, was inspired by recent discussions about National and local health reform proposals which could go into affect with in the next year and would have a profound effect on Utah’s racial and ethnic minority communities.

Eliminating health disparities and improve health outcomes for Utah’s ethnic minority communities through public/private sector partnerships is the mission of the Multicultural Health Network. MHN has 3 work group committees focused on eliminating health disparities through targeted focus areas, which includes a Policy/Coverage/Access Committee, a Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Committee, and a Data/Research Committee, as well as a Steering/Leadership Committee. The goal of this conference was to raise awareness of health disparities in Utah and provide opportunities to improve health outcomes among Utah’s racial and ethnic minority populations.

The conference kicked off with the presentation of an award from the Medicare Prevention Bus Tour (a OMS sponsored initiative focused on motivating seniors and others with Medicare to make the most of Medicare’s preventative services) to MHN for their continuing efforts to eliminate health disparities in Utah. Highlighting conference speakers included Dr George W. Delavan, Director of the Division of Community and Family Health Services; Utah Senator Bob Bennett, on his Healthy Americans Act and Health Disparities; Rea Pañares, Director of Minority Health Initiatives at Families USA; and speaking on behalf of Governor Jon Huntsman, Palmer DePaulis, Executive Director for the Department of Community and Culture.

Attendees participated in Q & A and an interactive discussion with 3 different panelists. The first was a report from the MHN committee chairs and vice chairs on the preliminary findings of their respective environmental scans as well as their next steps for the upcoming year. The second included a Local and National MHN and Office of Minority Health panel discussion which took us outside of MHN and discussed minority health issues on a state and national level. Our concluding panelists included a representative from our Refugee, Black/African American, Pacific Islander, American Indian, and Asian communities, who discussed health disparities issues specific to their communities and addressed the question ‘What would you bring to the health reform table?’.

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MULTICULTURAL HEALTH NETWORK CONFERENCE

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We would like to thank our conference sponsors for making this event possible:

Eccles Health Science Library, University of Utah
Utah Cancer Action Network, Disparities Work Group
Center For Multicultural Health
Utah Office of Ethnic Affairs
Comunidades Unidas
Utah Health Policy Project
Harambee African America and Tobacco Health Network
Utah Department of Work Force Services
Linguistica International
Voices for Utah Children
Association for Utah Community Health
National Children's Study
NAMI Utah

The Multicultural Health Network is currently recruiting for membership with a specific focus and ethnic community representative. Updates and follow up information will be posted regularly at, www.cuutah.org, or www.health.utah.gov/cmh.

To participate in the Multicultural Health Network or for more information please contact Isabel Rojas at Isabel@cuutah.org or 566-6191.

Information provided by Isabel Rojas, MHN Coordinator

REFUGEE NEEDS DRIVE

Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon's Council on Diversity Affairs (CODA)& Salt Lake County Office of Volunteer Program Services Refugee Needs Drive Sept. 4th - Sept. 21st, 2007

Salt Lake County Government Center, 2001 S. State St., SLC: Two collection container locations available in the North Building: SLCo. Mayor's Office, N-2100, or Atrium, Main Level.

Several Utah refugee families, recently displaced, are seeking new housing and needing several essential household items. These families traveled from dire refugee camp conditions in Africa to resettle in the land of hope and opportunity - America. Yet, another move has made it difficult for them to afford basic household, clothing and living needs.

Please donate any of the following ONLY CLEAN and NEW or GENTLY USED items by Friday, September 21st to the CODA Designated Collection Containers.

If you would like to volunteer for this project or to help sort items on Saturday, September 22nd, please contact the Salt Lake County Office of Volunteer Program Services, at 468-2185.

If you have any questions, please call Noor Ul-Hasan, at 943-1935.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

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6th Annual Diabetes Training for Medical/Health Support Staff on October 25-26, 2007 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Provo, Utah. Attached are the training flyer and registration form and registration can take place immediately by completing the form and returning it to the Utah Diabetes Prevention & Control Program by October 8.

The audience for this training usually consists of those who are new to the diabetes field, those who need a refresher on diabetes management principles, and those who would like to simply enhance their diabetes skills. Generally, it is a basic training on diabetes education concepts for professionals in Utah and the immediate surrounding areas (i.e., Shiprock, NM; Wendover, NV; Kayenta, AZ, etc). Past participants have come from community health centers, Native American diabetes programs, local health departments, community-based organizations, and other diabetes programs. For more information call (801) 538-9495

Primary Children's Medical Center will be providing a **workshop on the Management of Diabetes in School** on Friday, September 28 in Salt Lake City. Course information/registration form is attached. For more information about this workshop, please contact either Lucie Jarrett at 801-587-3907 or Joy Khader at 801-662-3514.

Education Group for Victims of Domestic Violence

When : Wednesdays Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Where: Center for Women and Children in Crisis, Outreach and Administration Offices
1433 East 840 North, Orem, Utah

Group leader: Mindy Woodhouse, LCSW. If you have any questions call 356-2511

The **Organization Leadership: Key to Nonprofit Stability** workshop offered on August 23 through the Utah Department of Health/Center for Multicultural Health will be offered under the title of "Board Renewal" through the Utah Nonprofits Association on September 11, 2007 in Park City. Details and registration at the [Utah Nonprofits Association website](#)

New Counseling Services for Provo Residents: Affiliated Family Treatment Center has received a grant to provide free services for Provo Residents. They have also recently hired two new bilingual (Spanish-English) therapists. Call Mark Capell for more information. 377-1595.



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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS (I)

September Asthma CDC Teleconference

Tuesday, September 11th, 2007

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Utah Department of Health, SLC, Room #201

Call-in information available, contact Libbey Chuy at lbchuy@utah.gov
for more information.

Upcoming activities for the 30 minute Hispanic Documentary - **Don't Give up. Quit.**
Dates and locations for documentary screenings. They are as follows:

1. SLCC Redwood Campus - Student Event Center

4600 South Redwood Road

September 19, 2007 * 12 noon

Lunch will be provided

2. Salt Lake City Library Auditorium

210 East 400 South

September 19, 2007 * 7 PM

3. Hunter Library Auditorium

4740 West and 4100 South, West Valley

September 24, 2007 7pm.

On September 22, 2007, the first **Cancer Survivorship Summit** will be held at the West Valley Cultural Center. The agenda was put together by the Utah Cancer Action Network Quality of Life Work Group and was funded through many generous donations.

Participants can register on-line (there is no cost to attend, but they must pre-register) at this link
<http://health.utah.gov/ucan/regsummit/index.php>

Misdiagnosis and Dual Diagnoses of Gifted Children and Adults

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH 7:00 – 8:30 P.M.

Salt Lake City ,Downtown Public Library 200 E 400 S Conference Room - Level 4

Sponsored by:

University of Utah Department of Family and Consumer Studies

For additional information, please call the FCS Department at 581-6521.



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CONFERENCES AND EVENTS (II)

FREE Health Fair “Bi-National Health Week”

FREE Health and Dental Screening

Date: October 13, 2007

Place: Centro de la Familia "Honeyville" Head Start Center

Address: 6980 N. 2550 W. Honeyville, UT 84314

Phone: (435) 279-1088, (435) 279-1089, (435) 279-1090.

Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Centro de la Familia “Honeyville Head Start” and the Mexican Consulate are promoting health throughout the Community, you are invited to participate and receive health and dental screenings and other health information. Please come and participate with your family

The Utah Gerontological Society announces the 16th Annual Conference - September 18-19, 2007 “Community Coming Together”

10 Category I CHES Credits Available Tuesday and Wednesday, September 18-19
Midway, Utah

A Regional conference for professionals, students, and older adults involved in the field of aging. Featuring national and local speakers/presenters, the conference is set in the beautiful Zermatt Resort.

Keynote Speakers include Josefina G. Carbonell, Assistant Secretary for Aging, U. S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and Robert Hill, PhD, Professor, Educational Psychology, University of Utah and author of Positive Aging.

To register for the event, download and mail in Registration Form

<http://aging.utah.edu/ugs/fallconference2007.html>



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FUNDING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The March of Dimes has released it's 2008 RFP for Community Grants.

Proposals will be accepted from organizations with the capacity, competence and experience to accomplish project goals and objectives through one of the following strategies:

1. Increasing availability and quality of health care/prevention services for all women of childbearing age and/or pregnant women
2. Increasing availability of genetics services and folic acid education

The applicant must provide services in Utah. The chapter community grants fund for 2008 is approximately \$20,000. It is anticipated that 2-3 projects will be funded, with awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 each.

Applications due: October 5, 2007

March of Dimes, Utah Chapter 757 E. South Temple, Suite 120, Salt Lake City, UT 84102 801-746-5540 smcdonald@marchofdimes.com

Board Fellows Non-profit Board Fellowship Program for Nonprofit Organizations

Board Fellows Program: The Board Fellows Program successfully debuted in Fall of 2006. In coordination with the Net Impact Chapter, masters-level students are matched with community not-for-profit organizations. The students act as an ex-officio board member and are mentored by current members of participating boards. The program provides an introduction to boardsmanship and in-depth exposure to resources within the community. In addition, it also develops relationships between the David Eccles School of Business and not-for-profit organizations along the Wasatch Front. Student and community response resulted in 25 participating boards and students in the inaugural year.

Application deadline: Friday September 7, 2007. This help is offered at no cost for nonprofit organizations. Information: utahboardfellows@gmail.com



NEW PUBLICATIONS ON MINORITIES AND HEALTH (I)

[A Systematic Review of Asthma and Health Literacy: A Cultural-Ethnic Perspective in Canada](#)

This review provides further considerations regarding the beliefs of care providers in relation to illness and health literacy and their association with asthma among ethnocultural communities.

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/560404?src=mp>

The Office of Minority Health has launched a new Web page, Think Cultural Health

<http://www.thinkculturalhealth.org/> that provides a wealth of resources and information on the issues of cultural competence in health care and health care disparities.

AARP Public Policy Institute recently released an issue brief, Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunization Rates among Medicare Beneficiaries

http://assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/health/ib83_disparities.pdf that outlines the racial and ethnic disparities in immunization rates for flu and pneumonia among older adults.

The American Journal of Epidemiology published a study in its July 1 issue entitled Racial Discrimination and Breast Cancer Incidence in US Black Women

<http://aje.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/166/1/46> The study found that perceived discrimination may contribute to increased rates of breast cancer among black females in the U.S.

Archives of Internal Medicine published the report Disparities in Health Care Are Driven by Where Minority Patients Seek Care <http://archinte.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/short/167/12/1233>

which suggests that disparities in health care outcomes are largely the result of differences in where minority and non-minority patients seek care.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities compiled new data showing that the Medicaid documentation requirement (DRA) has been most harmful to African American and white children eligible for the program, as opposed to preventing immigrants from enrolling in this program. The report, Rule Mostly Hurts U.S. Citizen Children, Not Undocumented Immigrants <http://www.cbpp.org/7-10-07health.htm> presents data from three states that compare different racial and ethnic groups' enrollment in Medicaid since the requirement took effect.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS ON MINORITIES AND HEALTH (II)

The Commonwealth Fund released the report Closing the Divide: How Medical homes Promote Equity in Health Care: Results from The Commonwealth Fund 2006 Health Care Quality Survey http://www.commonwealthfund.org/usr_doc/1035_Beal_closing_divide_medical_homes.pdf?section=4039 which found that racial and ethnic disparities in access and quality are reduced or even eliminated when adults have health insurance coverage and a medical home.

Kaiser Family Foundation conducted a survey to compare Americans' health care worries to their worries about other possible problems. Their most recent _Health Security Watch <http://www.kff.org/healthpollreport/CurrentEdition/security/upload/HSW0607.pdf> report findings indicate that more racial and ethnic minorities than whites report being worried about their own health care security.

The Office of Minority Health along with The Department of Health and Human Services funded the development of a new tool: A Patient-Centered Guide to Implementing Language Access Services in Healthcare Organizations <http://www.omhrc.gov/templates/content.aspx?ID=4375&lvl=2&lvlID=107> The guide was created to assist health care organizations in better serving their clients with limited English proficiency and decrease disparities in access to health care.

Voices for America's Children and The Annie E. Casey Foundation recently created a new toolkit entitled Race Matters <http://www.aecf.org/KnowledgeCenter/PublicationsSeries/RaceMatters.aspx> The toolkit was created to help advocates and leaders address race and power structures within their work to help create equitable opportunities for all.

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The Connection

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ABOUT CMH

The Center for Multicultural Health (CMH) is the Utah office of minority health. It is part of the Utah Department of Health, Division of Community and Family Health Services.

Our mission is to promote accessible and high-quality programs and policies that help all racial and ethnic minorities in Utah achieve optimal health. We accomplish our mission by increasing public and health professional awareness of persistent race/ethnic disparities and by developing effective health policies and culturally competent programs that lead to better access and utilization of quality health care services in Utah.

If you would like to see your organization or event highlighted in a future edition of our newsletter, please send us a brief description of your organization and its activities, as well as your contact information

Please submit feedback, suggestions, ideas, or articles to:
ddiez@utah.gov

Visit our Calendar of Events
<http://my.calendars.net/multicultural>